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**NEWS RELEASE** 

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## **New Workgroup Focuses on Carbon Capture Regs**

(Salt Lake City, Utah) – The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has created the Carbon Capture and Geologic Sequestration Workgroup that will develop state regulations governing ways to capture carbon dioxide from coal-fired power plants.

Carbon Capture and Geologic Sequestration (CCGS) is an approach for mitigating greenhouse gas emissions by capturing carbon dioxide from large stationary sources such as coal-fired power plants and storing it in deep rock formations instead of releasing it to the atmosphere.

The first meeting of the CCGS Workgroup is scheduled at 9 a.m. Monday, September 8 in Room 101 at DEQ, 168 North 1950 West, Salt Lake City.

The 2008 Legislature passed Senate Bill 202 that amended the Utah Energy Resource Procurement Act requiring the Division of Water Quality and the Division of Air Quality, in collaboration with the Public Service Commission, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, and the Utah Geological Survey to develop rules for the capture, transportation, and geologic sequestration of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>).

"There will be a concerted effort among all the agencies involved to develop these rules and prepare comments on the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rule regulating underground carbon sequestration," said Candace Cady, a Water Quality scientist who will chair the CO<sub>2</sub> Injection Well Subcommittee of the CCGS Workgroup. "The proposed EPA rule only addresses federal requirements for the injection wells; it does not address requirements for the capture of carbon dioxide at its source or its transportation to the injection well."

The CCGS Workgroup is comprised of local government, state and federal regulators, land managers, attorneys, state and national environmental groups, public health officials as well as power generators and those from the oil and gas industry. The Workgroup consists of a steering committee, three subcommittees, an advisory committee and a stakeholder group, all of which will provide input in the rules development process. For more information, visit: <a href="http://www.climatechange.utah.gov/">http://www.climatechange.utah.gov/</a>

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